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ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT
1 July 1964-30 June 1965



Reported by: Colonel Peter M. Margetis, DC, Director Fred Leonard, PhD, Scientific Director

28 September 1965



U. S, ARMY MEDICAL BIOMECHANICAL RESEARCH LABORATORY WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER Washington, D. C. 20012

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ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT Fiscal Year 1965

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Reported by: Colonel Peter M. Margetis, DC, Director Fred Leonard, PhD, Scientific Director

28 September 1965

U.S. ARMY MEDICAL BIOMECHANICAL RESEARCH LABORATORY WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER Washington, D. C. 20012

SUMMARY

The research program of the U. S. Army Medical Biomechanical Research Laboratory is devoted to the development of internal and external body biomechanical devices and to special AMEDS projects as assigned.

The various research projects described in this report are directed toward the implementation of this program.

FOREWORD

During FY 1965 the Laboratory continued to carry out research toward the development of internal and external body biomechanical materials and devices.

The year was marked by several major accomplishments. These were:

- 1. The development of more biologically receptive tissue adhesives and hemostasis inducing compounds.
- 2. The synthesis of L(+) polylactic acid, a biodegradable polymer, and the casting and extruding of films and fibers therefrom.
- 3. The design and fabrication of electrically powered arm components including a proportional control prehension device suitable for use in hybrid electrical and body powered prostheses as well as in all-electrical systems.
- 4. The development of a mechanical hand incorporating a soft feel and outstanding cosmesis.
- 5. The design, development, and procurement of 200 all-plastic optical inserts for the NBC protective mask.
 - 6. The development of a foam-in-place splint and packaging system.

During the year a pathologist and an electronics engineer were added to the Laboratory's staff. With these additions the Laboratory now has the chemical, mechanical, and electronic medical evaluation capability suitable for coping with a variety of biomedical engineering problems.

In conducting the research described in this report the investigators adhered to the "Principles of Laboratory Animal Care" as established by the National Society for Medical Research.

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Internal Prostheses

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Electric Elbow Unlock

INVESTIGATORS:

Victor T. Riblett Roy I. Katsuren, SP4

DESCRIPTION: An electrically operated solenoid type elbow lock, requiring minimal forces and excursion, is under development.

PROGRESS: Several models have been prepared. Engineering drawings and specifications have been compiled and three production prototypes ordered. These units will be evaluated on amputees. Two units have been fitted to female forequarter amputees.

SUMMARY: This unit provides the severely handicapped amputee having minimal force and excursion with the elbow locking function. The velocity-lock mechanism obviates the need for simultaneous control of two functions during the locking phase.

PUBLICATIONS: Dwg. T-666

TITLE:

Externally Powered Prosthesis

INVESTIGATORS:

Victor T. Riblett

Roy I. Katsuren, SP4 Lloyd L. Salisbury, Jr.

DESCRIPTION: The purpose of this project is to develop an externally powered artificial arm, with proportional-controlled terminal device.

PROGRESS: An electrically operated arm has been designed and built. Final drawings and specifications are being prepared for procuring several prototype models. A breakthrough in the development of a poroportional-control, electrically powered terminal device system has been achieved and a breadboard model which demonstrates the feasibility of the system has been prepared. See Project 3A013001A91C 01, Biomedical Electronics.

SUMMARY: An electric arm and a proportional-controlled electrically powered, terminal device system have been developed. These items will be evaluated for use by severely handicapped amputees.

PUBLICATIONS: Dwg T-679

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Foam Splint

INVESTIGATORS:

F. Leonard, PhD

J. T. Hill

D. R. Ingenito

DESCRIPTION: A lightweight, low bulk splint kit has been developed which could be used under combat conditions by the field soldier to make a strong immobilization splint.

PROGRESS: Foam-in-place arm and leg splints have been prepared and arrangements made for demonstration of the splints before qualified medical personnel for opinions on medical feasibility.

SUMMARY: The engineering feasibility of a foamable splint for field use has been demonstrated. Medical evaluation is necessary before further engineering design is undertaken.

TITLE:

Mandibu'ar Foam Splint

INVESTIGATORS:

Colonel P. M. Margetis, DC

J. T. Hill

D. R. Ingenito

DESCRIPTION:

A lightweight, small bulk, easily removable splint for

the immobilization of fractured mandibles was designed and fabricated.

PROGRESS: This item is undergoing testing.

SUMMARY: A polyurethane foam-in-place mandibular splint has been

developed.

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Facial Prostheses

INVESTIGATORS:

J. J. Urban Joshua Nelson

Joseph E. Ouellette

DESCRIPTION: A two component prosthesis has been developed using an acrylate terpolymer skin, synthesized at the laboratory and a flexible foam filler foundation.

PROGRESS: During this period facial prostheses of all types have been fitted to patients referred by the Division of Plastic Surgery, Walter Reed General Hospital. Satisfactory results continue to be obtained. A report detailing this work is nearing completion.

SUMMARY: The materials and prosthesis designs will continue to be evaluated on patients. As soon as the report has been completed it is planned to set up cooperative programs with other centers for a more complete evaluation of the techniques developed.

PUBLICATIONS: MR 1-65 Prostheses Fabricated for Plastic Surgery Service, Walter Reed General Hospital.

TITLE:

Materials for Cosmetic Gloves

INVESTIGATORS:

Carl A. Nielson

James C. Eaton, Jr.

DESCRIPTION: Development of materials for stain-resistant cosmetic gloves is continuing.

PROGRESS: A resin-rich vinyl plastisol formulation was developed, field tested and found to be superior to presently manufactured cosmetic gloves. The new formulation was published and gloves prepared by commercial manufacturers were procured by New York University and tested for the Committee on Prosthetics Research and Development. The results of the tests were satisfactory.

SUMMARY: A new cosmetic glove formulation was developed. It was found to be more stain-resistant and stronger than presently used formulations.

PUBLICATIONS: MR 10-64 Production of RREP dilaminar gloves

11-64 Viscosity of RREP plastisol at elevated temperatures 13-64 Modification of plastisol RREP for decreased viscosity

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Foam Foot

INVESTIGATORS:

Fred Leonard, PhD

J. T. Hill

Donald R. Ingenito

V. T. Riblett

DESCRIPTION: The development of a flexible urethane solid ankle, cushion heel foot (SACH) has been undertaken.

PROGRESS: A high density sponge composition has been developed that shows promise of meeting the Veterans Administration specifications for the SACH type molded foot. The mold used for these feet has been redesigned and has been cast. Several foot moldings have been made.

SUMMARY: The new mold design in conjunction with the foam sponge compositions should make it possible to fabricate foam feet that will meet the Veterans Administration specifications.

PUBLICATIONS: Dwg T-638

TITLE:

Graded Prehension Hook

INVESTIGATORS:

Fred Leonard, PhD Albert B. Colman

DESCRIPTION: A terminal device, with provision for easily obtaining variable prehension forces which can be adjusted to suit the amputee's daily needs, is under development.

PROGRESS: A model with a roller to adjust prehension force from 1 to 5 lbs. is in the design stage.

SUMMARY: This device will undergo further design studies to increase efficiency and to provide a better method of adjusting prehension force.

PUBLICATIONS: Preliminary design sketches

Lower Extremity Plastic Bracing

INVESTIGATORS:

James T. Hill

DESCRIPTION: Efforts are being made to develop materials and techniques for the preparation of all-plastic lower extremity braces, to replace aluminum and steel.

PROGRESS: A technique has been developed in which a paper tracing is transferred to wood which is used as a mandrel about which the plastic side bars may be laminated. Filament winding is being tested as a possible method for preparing all-plastic braces.

SUMMARY: Preliminary observations indicate that all-plastic braces may be feasible.

PUBLICATIONS: Patent Application

TITLE:

Porous Below-Knee (BK) Sockets with Soft Distal End

INVESTIGATORS:

Fred Leonard, PhD Robert E. Plumb Chester T. Shelton

DESCRIPTION: This laboratory developed a porous below-knee hard socket with a soft distal end. The socket is patellar-tendon-bearing and is composed of a polyester laminate with a soft silicone end.

PROGRESS: This socket has been fitted to several amputees at USAMBRL and is undergoing clinical evaluation on four amputees at New York University.

SUMMARY: The socket is lighter, more comfortable and cooler than the conventional patellar-tendon bearing socket.

Step-up Elbow Hinge with Lock

INVESTIGATORS:

V. T. Riblett

J. W. Hodge, Jr.

DESCRIPTION: This hinge is designed to increase the amount of forearm flexion available to the amputee who has considerably less than the normal amount of flexion about the elbow and to provide locking. A step-up ratio of 1.5:1 is incorporated into the hinge. Locking is achieved by inserting a plunger in a notched sector at a specific degree of forearm flexion.

PROGRESS: Two sets of hinges and a laminating jig have been designed and fabricated. These have been submitted to New York University for amputee evaluation.

SUMMARY: This unit will enable an amputee with a very short stump with limited stump force and flexion to lock the forearm in position. In the locked position no load is sustained by the stump.

PUBLICATIONS: T. R. 6417 Fabrication procedures for split socket prosthesis using the AMBRL step-up hinge with lock

TITLE: Transmission System

INVESTIGATORS: John W. Hodge, Jr.

V. T. Riblett

DESCRIPTION: A prototype all-plastic cable transmission system for controlling upper extremity prosthetic devices has been developed. The system consists of nylon ball and cable connectors, dacron cord cable, Teflon housing, and nylon retainers, and is currently undergoing laboratory evaluation. The dacron cord has a strength in tension of 117 lbs. and exhibits minimal wear when cycled 100,000 times. Force transmission efficiency was observed to be 90 percent. An adequate means of stabilizing the Teflon housing in the nylon retainers is being given special attention at this time. The system has been packaged and submitted to three testing agencies for clinical evaluation.

SUMMARY: The all-plastic cable transmission system has adequate strength, good efficiency, and was cycled with satisfactory results. It is expected that this sytem will replace in some instances the currently used steel cable transmission system, and in other instances work in conjunction with the steel transmission system. Repair is greatly facilitated by the use of the plastic system.

PUBLICATIONS: TR6507-Plastic cable transmission system for upper extremity prosthesis. 13

Size IV Active Resilient Hand

INVESTIGATORS:

Theodore J. Bushey

John J. Urban

Joseph E. Ouellette

DESCRIPTION: A functional resilient soft hand prosthesis has been designed. The resilient hand consists of a voluntary opening type operating mechanism enclosed in a metal, hand-shaped shell which operates the 1st and 2nd fingers. The metal shell, fingers and thumb are fitted into a foam cover which duplicates the contours of the human hand. This is then covered with a USAMBRL Cosmetic Glove, making a terminal device which approximates the appearance and feel of a human hand and which incorporates prehension function.

PROGRESS: The operating mechanism, mechanism shell, fingers and a two-position thumb have been designed, fabricated, and assembled into a hand-shaped foam covering. A number of these hands, both right and left, have been built and are under evaluation.

SUMMARY: The adaptation of a simple voluntary opening (VO) mechanism to the space restrictive requirements of a hand, which has soft feel and has the cosmetic features of a human hand, provides the amputee with a soft functional terminal device.

PUBLICATIONS: M. R. 9-65 Resilient hand evaluation Dwg. T-658

Mechanical Hands

INVESTIGATORS:

A. H. Brown V. T. Riblett

DESCRIPTION: Four of the five sizes of functional mechanical hands are under active development. Hand Size IV is in commercial production.

PROGRESS: Hand Sizes I and II have been completed and are manufactured commercially. Hand Size III is 98 percent complete. The parts for Hand Size V have been received from the foundry and will be assembled.

SUMMARY: The complete range of hand sizes made in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee on Prosthetic Research and Development, National Research Council, should be completed during the next report period.

PUBLICATIONS:	T.R. 6416 T.R. 6419	Evaluation of No. II Size hand Hand Size No. I - Voluntary opening with single position stop
	T. R. 6501	Hand Size No. II - Voluntary opening with single position stop
	T.R. 6503	Improved technique for the fabrication of a double wall single laminated porous arm socket
	MR 3-65	Adjustable torsion spring hook
	MR 4-65	No. II Size Hand check-out
	MT 10-65	Locking bar test
	Dwg. T-659	
	Dwg. T-670	İ
	Dwg. T-673	

Voluntary Opening Hook with Firger Flexion

INVESTIGATORS:

Fred Leonard, PhD Albert B. Colman

DESCRIPTION: A terminal device which will provide 0 to 35 degree flexion of the hook fingers is being developed. Such a device will eliminate an additional arm component, the wrist flexion unit, from the prosthesis. In addition, the control systems for the terminal device will not be affected when the amputee requires the fingers of the hook to be in the flexed position.

PROGRESS: Drawings and specifications were prepared to procure 3 right and 3 left models of the locking type flexion hook.

SUMMARY: Hooks with lock-in flexion are being procured for amputee evaluation.

PUBLICATIONS: Dwg. T-660

TITLE:

Stress Distributing Foot Support

INVESTIGATOR:

John J. Urban

DESCRIPTION: A quick setting dynamic arch support has been developed. The base elastomer is a filled silicone rubber which is placed in the patient's shoe. The filled elastomer sets within 15 minutes while the patient is walking.

PROGRESS: Materials and techniques have been developed and a report written. The technique has been submitted to the Veterans Administration for clinical evaluation.

SUMMARY: Preliminary patient evaluation is satisfactory. Plans are being made with the Veterans Administration for clinical evaluation.

Hand Splint Materials

INVESTIGATORS:

Fred Leonard, PhD

Captain Mary H. Yeakel, AMSC

DESCRIPTION: Various plastic materials are being tested for feasibility for use in hand splints.

PROGRESS: Two materials, a rigid vinyl and polypropylene, have been obtained and are currently being tested on patients. The vinyl material can be cut to shape on a hand saw, with hand tools, or even with scissors, when the material is heated. It can be shaped by heating in boiling water and may be formed directly on the patient, thereby eliminating the necessity of molds and numerous fittings. It seems to have many fine qualities and field tests are favorable. Polypropylene rod, 3/16" diameter, is being tested as a substitute for metal hinges. Since this material can be cold-formed, the entire splint can be fabricated and the wrist hinge formed when the splint is on the patient. This makes alignment of the anatomical hinge of the wrist and the splint hinge more accurate and simpler to fabricate. Clinical evaluation has been successful.

SUMMARY: An all-plastic opponens splint has been prepared and is being evaluated on patients.

PUBLICATIONS: T. R. 6418 Clinical evaluation of vinyl thermoplastic splints.

TITLE:

Proximal Interphalangeal Assist Finger Splint

INVESTIGATORS:

Captain Mary H. Yeakel, AMSC

Mr. Theodore J. Bushey

DESCRIPTION: A dynamic splint has been developed to assist the weakened or destroyed extensor tendon of the proximal interphalangeal joint. The splint is designed so that it will not impede use of the hand and is attached on the dorsum of the involved finger.

PROGRESS: The splint consists of two contoured aluminum discs which are adhered to the proximal and medial phalanges by adhesive tape. Each disc supports a post 3/4" in height. The distal post is slotted to accept a torsion spring which is held stationary by a set screw. The post on the proximal portion is slotted and permits the torsion spring to slide freely.

SUMMARY: Clinical evaluation at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina has been favorable. This project has been completed.

Soft Foamed Hand Splint

INVESTIGATORS:

Captain Mary H. Yeakel, AMSC

John J. Urban

DESCRIPTION: A solid foam splint is being designed for static positioning of the severely burned hand. Size standards will be determined and the splint will be stocked for use at the Surgical Research Unit, Brooke Army Medical Center.

PROGRESS: Six splints have been field tested at SRU. Several designs and material combinations have been used. The outer protective, impervious skin of the splint was originally made from Dow-Corning room temperature vulcanizing silicone rubber and the inner core from a silicone foam and silicone rubber combination. Resilient polyurethane foams have been substituted for the silicones to provide a lighter, more easily fabricated splint. A metal hinge was incorporated at the wrist to provide a method of changing the wrist position to meet the needs of the patient. Field testing and design modification of this splint will continue.

SUMMARY: A solid foam, static, positioning splint is being developed for the severely burned hand. It is felt that most of the criteria for positioning can be incorporated into the device and that it will prove to be more desirable than the splints currently available for this task.

TITLE:

Pronation-Supination Sandblock

INVESTIGATORS:

Captain Mary H. Yeakel, AMSC

V. T. Riblett

DESCRIPTION: A sandblock which requires the isolated motions of pronation and supination is being developed. These motions are difficult to encourage in woodworking activities with equipment presently available to the Occupational Therapist.

PROGRESS: Design specifications have been established, the device fabricated and submitted for testing and evaluation.

SUMMARY: A sandblock which required forearm pronation and supination was developed, and clinically evaluated at Fort Knox, Ky. and found satisfactory. Project is terminated.

PUBLICATIONS: Dwg. T-656

Dwg. T-664

Graded Resistance Exercise Unit

INVESTIGATORS:

Captain Mary H. Yeakel, AMSC

V. T. Riblett A. H. Brown

DESCRIPTION: A small portable exercise unit, which can be used to provide graded resistance for therapeutic exercise, is being developed in cooperation with the Hunter Spring Company.

PROGRESS: Negotiations are being worked out with the Hunter Spring Company to modify the standard spring reel unit to meet specifications desired for exercise equipment. A pilot study, with limited units available, was quite encouraging with positive reactions from patients and therapists. A larger number of models are being procured for more extensive field trials.

SUMMARY: A small, lightweight exercise unit is being developed which should prove useful in clinic, ward, or home.

PUBLICATIONS: Dwg. T-663

TITLE:

Burn Bed

INVESTIGATORS:

Captain Mary H. Yeakel, AMSC

Carl A. Nielson Victor T. Riblett

DESCRIPTION: An attempt is being made to construct a bed which will permit circulation of air about the circumferential burn wound. This will be accomplished by modification of a Stryker frame so that a coarse mesh, woven or knitted fabric, or plastic net can be attached to the frame. The frame must provide a simple method of changing tension in the net to permit equal distribution of pressures against the patient.

PROGRESS: Several knit and woven fabrics and polyallomer net samples have been obtained; however, none of these have been satisfactory. A dacron fabric has been obtained. This is to be silicone coated and evaluated.

SUMMARY: An attempt is being made to develop a bed which will permit circulation of air around the circumferential burn wound.

Stretcher Modification

INVESTIGATORS:

Fred Leonard, PhD Theodore J. Bushey Stanley W. Baker

DESCRIPTION: A medical field stretcher is being modified to decrease its length and cube. A design modification is being considered that will shorten the overall length to 77 inches when not in use. This is being accomplished by designing a set of carrying handles that will retract into the side, rails thereby shortening the overall length by 13 inches.

PROGRESS: The prototype handles were made and installed on the stretcher. Professional consultants at the Office of the Surgeon General commented that the design appeared too complex and that dirt may get in the mechanism, causing a malfunction.

SUMMARY: Because of preliminary professional staff comments, further work was halted.

PUBLICATIONS: Dwg. T-662

TITLE:

Military Identification Tag Cover

INVESTIGATORS:

Fred Leonard, PhD

A. H. Brown

DESCRIPTION: Military identification tag covers containing provision for refraction data were prepared and submitted to the Natick Laboratories, Natick, Massachusetts for evaluation. The covers were prepared from a plasticized polyvinyl chloride.

PROGRESS: Approximately 300 covers were made.

SUMMARY: This item was found to be highly satisfactory as a result of tests conducted by the Natick Laboratories and is ready for type classification.

Miscellaneous

INVESTIGATORS: Laboratory Staff Members

DESCRIPTION: The laboratory engaged in a variety of short term development projects of interest to AMEDS activities. These included the development of an Amniocentosis Needle, Dental Forceps, evaluation of insulation material for the MUST unit, evaluation of Corfam, small animal container, surgical suction device, ear inserts, and medical apparatus.

PUBLICATIONS:	T.R. 6502	Stress-strain characteristics and water vapor permeability of leather vs. Corfam
	T. R. 6509	Evaluation of failures in the aluminum-polyurethane foam composite used in MUST unit
	MR 8-64	The use of cyanoacrylate adhesive for luting gold dental castings
	MR 14-64	Improved ear inserts
	MR 6-65	Teflon utero-cervical vaginal pessary cannula
	•	(Dwg T-667)
	MR 7-65	Filter for use with the Cobalt 60 Irradiator, Radiation Therapy, WRGH (Dwg T-675)
	MR 8-65	Device for insertion of contact lenses (Dwg T-675)

Dwg T-661-1 Monkey vacuum chamber

Dwg T-665 Mouthstick

Dwg T-668 Surgical suction device-nozzle

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Internal Prostheses

INVESTIGATORS:

Carl A. Nielson Joshua Nelson K. C. Pani, MD

DESCRIPTION: Current efforts are directed toward the development of internal body prostheses, such as tracheae, esophagi, vascular grafts, and bile ducts.

PROGRESS: During this period, assorted lengths of 4 mm, 6 mm, 8 mm, and 10 mm synthetic vascular grafts were submitted to Brooke Army Medical Center. Samples of synthetic vascular grafts and bile ducts were submitted to Dr. R. T. Sherman of the University of Tennessee. Both the synthetic vascular grafts as well as the synthetic bile ducts continue under evaluation at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research and the University of Tennessee.

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Biochemistry

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Fabrics for Prosthetic Devices

INVESTIGATORS:

Laboratory Staff Members

DESCRIPTION: This laboratory has continued the project with the Philadelphia College of Textiles Sciences. The College knits research textiles for the laboratory's use in fabricating internal and external body prostheses upon request.

PROGRESS: Textiles for internal body and external body biomechanical devices are being fabricated.

SUMMARY: Specialty textiles will be prepared as required.

TITLE:

Implant Materials

INVESTIGATORS:

Carl A. Nielson

James C. Eaton, Jr.

DESCRIPTION: The purpose of this project is to develop a latex dispersed elastomer which would be utilized in the fabrication of reproducible cellular foam material for internal prosthetics.

PROGRESS: Both commercial and AMBRL batches of standard acrylate-amide latices have been evaluated for foam fabrication. Reproducibility of foam fabrication from batch to batch has not been satisfactory. The original 90/7.5/2.5 MA/MMA/MAD terpolymer latex has been modified to include poly vinyl alcohol in the polymerization medium. Results of experiments with several batches of this modified latex on reproducibility of foams are encouraging.

SUMMARY: Additional batches of the modified recipe will be evaluated for foam reproducibility and other additives such as poly (acrylic acid) will be evaluated as latex modifiers. In addition, other acrylate recipes will be polymerized in an attempt to produce an elastomeric material for possible utilization in internal body prostheses.

PUBLICATIONS:

MR - 12-64 Terpolymer latex X-10E

MR 15-64 Fabrication of grafts

MR 5-65 Foaming of terpolymer latices produced by

American Cyanamid Co.

MR 11 - 65 Acrylate amide foams prepared for evaluation as tissue prosthesis in orofacial surgery

26

Biodegradable Polymers

INVESTIGATORS:

Fred Leonard, PhD

Ramchandra Kulkarni, PhD Kaniambakam Pani, MD

DESCRIPTION: Biodegradable polymers for use in internal body prostheses are being synthesized. It is planned to synthesize polypeptides and polymers of such compounds as lactic acid and hydroxy butyric acid.

PROGRESS: Poly L (+) lactic acid has been synthesized and its physical properties studied. Initial implantation experiments have indicated that the polymer is well tolerated in the biological system and it may accelerate healing of wounds. Radioactive poly L (+) lactic acid has been synthesized and implanted in rats. Its gross metabolic fate is being determined by monitoring techniques.

SUMMARY: If poly lactic acid is biodegradable, efforts will be made to prepare sutures and vascular prostheses from the material. Films will also be prepared and evaluated as dressings for wounds and burns.

PUBLICATIONS: T. R. 6506 Biodegradable Polymers: Polylactic Acid.

TITLE:

Burn Dressing

INVESTIGATORS:

Fred Leonard, PhD George Brandes

Kaniambakam C. Pani, MD

DESCRIPTION: The preparation of evaluation of the higher alpha cyanoacrylates homologs as spray on dressings for burns has been undertaken.

PROGRESS: Excellent progress has been made on the synthesis of the hexyl, heptyl, and octyl cyanoacrylates in purities of 98.5% or higher. Spray guns have been developed for spraying these monomers.

Tissue Adhesives

INVESTIGATORS:

Fred Leonard, PhD

Ramchandra Kulkarni, PhD Kaniambakam C. Pani, MD

George Brandes

DESCRIPTION: The homologous series of the alpha cyanoacrylates is under study as tissue adhesive from the viewpoint of effectiveness in wound closure, histotoxicity, biodegradability, and structure reactivity relations.

PROGRESS: The homologous series of alpha cyanoacrylates from methyl to decyl were prepared in purities of 98.5% and higher. The mechanism of degradation has been studied in vitro and in vivo. A series of spray guns have been devised for delivering the monomers to wounds. Surgeons at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research are studying the tissue closure characteristics of these materials in a variety of tissue, including bone, pancreas, liver, spleen, kidney, oral vascular, nerve, and oral cavity. During this period several research institutions were supplied with samples of monomers manufactured in this laboratory. These were: WRAIR, WRGH, AFIP, AIDR, Picatinny Arsenal, University of Pennsylvania, and Johns Hopkins University. The samples were: Methyl - 152 cc; Ethyl - 90 cc; Butyl - 190 cc; Methyl C¹⁴ tagged - 30 cc; Heptyl - 35 cc; Propyl - 25 cc; Octyl-25 cc.

SUMMARY: Excellent progress is being made in this field of research. Promising hemostasis inducing compounds can be expected from this series of compounds.

PUBLICATIONS:

A spray gun for tissue adhesive Surgery, 57:749, May 1965

T. R. 6415 The preparation of radioactive methyl alpha cyanoacrylate

T. R.6505 Estimation of alkyl alpha cyanoacrylates by volumetric and hydrogenation procedures

T. R. 6508 Degradation of alpha cyanoacrylates by water

MR 16-64 Adsorption of butyl alpha cyanoacrylate onto Bio-Gel HT

MR 2-65 Preparation of polymers from alpha cyanoacrylates.

Dwg. T-674-1

Dwg. T-674-2

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In-House Laboratory Independent Research

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